

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 231082

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 231082 ACTION AMMAN 28 SEPT

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 231082

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: HAWKS FOR JORDAN--NEXT STEPS

REF.: AMMAN 6413

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SISCO (DELIVER 9:00 A.M. SUNDAY
MORNING)

1. LOA COVERING SALE OF 14 HAWK BATTERIES TO JORDAN IS
BEING FORWARDED TO YOU VIA NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED
CLASSIFIED POUCH, WHICH WE ARE ASSURED WILL ARRIVE AMMAN
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1. #YOU SHOULD SUBMIT IT TO GOJ
IMMEDIATELY AND URGE THAT IT BE SIGNED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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WE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERED YOUR REQUEST THAT SPECIAL COURIER

BE USED TO SPEED LOA'S DELIVERY, BUT DOD WAS NOT PREPARED TO MAKE MILITARY COURIER AVAILABLE AND WE CONCLUDED THAT THE SLIGHT TIME-SAVING INVOLVED IN USING A SPECIAL DIPLOMATIC COURIER DID NOT JUSTIFY THE EXPENSE.

2. NOTE 21 OF LOA STIPULATES THAT FIRST 3 COMPLETE BATTERY SETS WILL EACH BE READY FOR SHIPMENT FROM U.S. NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, SEPTEMBER 30 AND OCTOBER 31, RESPECTIVELY, IN 1976; THAT NEXT 3 BATTERY SETS WILL BE READY FOR SHIPMENT DURING PERIOD NOVEMBER 1977 - JANUARY 1978; AND THAT REMAINING BATTERY SETS WILL BE READY FOR

SHIPMENT BEGINNING APPROXIMATELY 30 MONTHS FROM SIGNATURE OF LOA. THIS SHIPMENT SCHEDULE GENERALLY CORRESPONDS WITH ACTUAL IN-COUNTRY DELIVERY DATES ENVISAGED IN PRESIDENT'S SEPTEMBER 17 LETTERS TO CONGRESS.

3. IT WAS NOT RPT NOT POSSIBLE TO REVISE NOTE 21 ALONG MORE GENERAL LINES SUGGESTED PARA 12 REFTTEL DUE TO FACT THAT WE HAD EARLIER TOLD CONGRESS THAT SHIPMENT SCHEDULE WOULD BE SPELLED OUT IN LOA. IN ADDITION, THIS PARTICULAR PORTION OF LOA SERVES AS BASIS FOR U.S. ARMY COMPLIANCE WITH SHIPMENT SCHEDULE AND MUST THEREFORE BE WORDED IN SPECIFIC, CONTRACTUAL TERMS. ANY ATTEMPT TO REVISE NOTE 21 WOULD HAVE ENTAILED TIME-CONSUMING CONSULTATIONS WITH DOD THAT WOULD HAVE RISKED UNDESIRABLE DELAY IN FORWARDING LOA TO GOJ.

4. WE BELIEVE YOUR RELATED SUGGESTION THAT CLASSIFIED LETTER RE TRAINING BE SUBMITTED TO GOJ IN TANDEM WITH LOA HAS MERIT. HOPEFULLY IT WILL FOCUS ATTENTION OF BOTH KING AND RIFAI ON NEED TO TURN ATTENTION AS FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS TO PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF WORKING OUT TRAINING PROGRAM AND MEANWHILE DEFER RAISING FURTHER WITH US THEIR PROBLEMS WITH DELIVERY SCHEDULE WHICH, AS PARA 5 BELOW MAKES CLEAR, IS PUTTING CART BEFORE THE HORSE. (WE NOTE THAT COS BIN SHAKER APPEARS TO BE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS IN THIS REGARD.) WE ARE SENDING YOU BY SEPTTEL TEXT OF DRAFT LETTER WE ARE CONSIDERING RECOMMENDING SECRETARY SEND TO KING HUSSEIN, ON WHICH WE WOULD
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WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS.

5. FYI: WE HAVE ALREADY BEGUN WORKING-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS WITH DOD/ARMY TO ASCERTAIN WHAT OUR HAWK TRAINING CAPABILITIES VIS-A-VIS JORDAN ARE AND TO REVIEW TRAINING ALTERNATIVES PREVIOUSLY ACCEPTED BY BIN SHAKER (SECDEF 2206 OF JUNE 14 AND MAP AMMAN 1482). WE HAVE LEARNED, INTER ALIA, THAT U.S. ARMY'S IMPROVED HAWK TRAINING-BASE

IN CONUS IS STRETCHED TO ITS ABSOLUTE, THREE-SHIFT LIMIT. ARMY INSISTS THAT ITS ABILITY TO ACCEPT JORDANIANS FOR TRAINING AT ANY TIME BETWEEN NOW AND OCTOBER 1976 WOULD REQUIRE (A) EXPANSION OF ITS IMPROVED HAWK TRAINING-BASE (NOT A FEASIBLE PROSPECT IN VIEW OF SHORTAGE OF QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR PERSONNEL AND NON-AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL TRAINING EQUIPMENT), OR (B) SUBSTITUTION IN TRAINING PROGRAMS OF JORDANIANS FOR OTHER FOREIGN AND U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL ALREADY RECEIVING OR SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE HAWK TRAINING IN U.S. (LATTER WOULD REQUIRE HIGHEST-LEVEL CONSIDERATION WITHIN DEPT AND DOD.) WHILE THESE FACTORS MAY PERHAPS PROMPT JORDANIANS TO THINK MORE POSITIVELY ABOUT ACCEPTING RAYTHEON AS CONTRACTOR-PARTICIPANT IN ANY

IN-COUNTRY HAWK TRAINING PROGRAM--POSSIBLY IN CONTEXT OF SOLE-SOURCE-TYPE FMS CASE ARRANGEMENT OUTLINED SECDEF 2206--IN-COUNTRY OPERATIONAL AND MAINTENANCE TRAINING COULD PROBABLY NOT GET UNDER WAY UNTIL AFTER FIRST HAWK BATTERY ARRIVES IN JORDAN IN OCT 1976. SEEN IN THIS LIGHT, AND GIVEN DOD/ARMY'S ESTIMATE THAT UP TO 19 MONTHS MAY BE REQUIRED TO FULLY TRAIN JAF CREWS TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN EACH HAWK BATTERY, KING'S AND RIFAI'S INSISTENCE ON SYNCHRONIZING DELIVERY SCHEDULE WITH PACE OF TRAINING CREWS READY TO RECEIVE EACH BATTERY COULD ACTUALLY RESULT IN SLOWING DOWN PRESENT DELIVERY SCHEDULE.

6. WE RECOGNIZE THIS SITUATION IS LIKELY TO CAUSE US MASSIVE PROBLEMS WITH JORDANIANS. WE WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO EXPLORE EVERY POSSIBLE MEANS WHEREBY HAWK TRAINING PROCESS FOR JORDAN CAN BE INTENSIFIED AND ACCELERATED, BUT THIS MAY PROVE DIFFICULT TO WORK OUT TO KING'S COMPLETE SATISFACTION. AS PART OF THIS EFFORT, WOULD APPRECIATE HAVING YOUR BEST ASSESSMENT--FROM
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POLITICAL STANDPOINT--OF HOW SOON INITIAL ASPECTS OF SUCH TRAINING SHOULD GET UNDER WAY, AS WELL AS ANY OTHER IDEAS YOU MAY HAVE FOR HELPING US MEET AT LEAST GOJ'S MINIMUM TRAINING OBJECTIVES. END FYI.

7. BEFORE WE CAN REALISTICALLY ADDRESS TASK OF WORKING OUT OVERALL AGREEMENT WITH GOJ ON THE MANY COMPLICATED ISSUES RELATED TO HAWK TRAINING (E.G., SCOPE, VENUE, PACE, COST AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY), SEVERAL INTERIM REQUIREMENTS SHOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF. FIRST IS THAT VISIT TO AMMAN BY DOD COMMAND AND CONTROL TEAM, POSTPONED FROM LAST MONTH WHILE HAWK SALE WAS RECEIVING CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY, SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO GO FORWARD. (UNTIL THIS TEAM HAS FINALIZED WITH GOJ DETAILS RELATED TO RADAR LINKAGE, COMMUNICATIONS HOOK-UP AND OTHER TECHNICAL

MATTERS INVOLVED IN EFFECTIVE OPERATION OF JORDAN'S FUTURE HAWK SYSTEM, RATIONAL CONSIDERATION CAN HARDLY BE GIVEN TO OVERALL TRAINING PACKAGE OR POSSIBLE CHANGES IN DELIVERY SCHEDULE.) WE ARE FORWARDING COPY OF SEPARATE LOA COVERING COMMAND AND CONTROL TEAM TO YOU UNDER SAME COVER AS LOA COVERING HAWK SALE ITSELF. YOU SHOULD DELIVER BOTH AT SAME TIME TO GOJ. WE WILL RETAIN ORIGINAL LOA FOR COMMAND AND CONTROL TEAM IN WASHINGTON FOR SIGNATURE BY JORDANIAN MILATT UPON RECEIPT OF INSTRUCTIONS FROM AMMAN.

8. OTHER INTERIM STEPS TO BE TAKEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING GOJ'S SIGNATURE OF LOA COVERING HAWK SALE ARE:

(A) DISPATCH OF QUALIFIED DOD/RAYTHEON TEAM TO AMMAN TO DISCUSS AN ILLUSTRATIVE UNIT TRAINING PROGRAM FOR HAWKS. (WE WILL ENSURE THAT THIS TEAM WILL BE FULLY BRIEFED RE STRONG JORDANIAN PREFERENCE FOR U.S. MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN ANY TRAINING PROGRAM, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE MADE NO RPT NO COMMITMENT TO JORDANIANS RE SUCH PARTICIPATION AND ARE OPPOSED TO HAVING LARGE NUMBER OF U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL CONDUCTING TRAINING IN JORDAN. ON OTHER HAND, IF ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE FOR CONTRACT PERSONNEL TO CONDUCT TRAINING IN JORDAN, WE WOULD WANT TO HAVE A COUPLE OF U.S. MILITARY SUPERVISORS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH OUR ASSURANCES TO CONGRESS. TEAM'S BRIEFING WILL ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OUR SECRET

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UNDERTAKING TO CONGRESS TO LIMIT JORDANIAN HAWK TRAINING TO THAT "APPROPRIATE TO NON-MOBILE WEAPONS".)

(B) TRAINING/ORIENTATION VISITS IN U.S. FOR JAF AIR DEFENSE STAFF AND EXPEDITER TEAM AS PROPOSED BY GOJ AT BEGINNING OF SUMMER.

9. VISITS TO JORDAN AND U.S. BY TECHNICAL GROUPS REFERRED TO IN PARAS 7 AND 8 ABOVE SHOULD GIVE BOTH SIDES A BETTER APPRECIATION OF WHAT PARAMETERS ARE LIKELY TO APPLY TO FUTURE HAWK TRAINING PROGRAM FOR JORDAN. WE CAN THEN PROCEED IN EARNEST WITH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AIMED AT WORKING OUT A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY TRAINING PROGRAM TO BE OFFERED TO GOJ IN A SUBSEQUENT LOA.

10. NONE RPT NONE OF FOREGOING IS FOR DISCUSSION WITH JORDANIANS AT THIS POINT. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE

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